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LETTER DATED 25 FEBRUARY 1999 FROM THE CHARGÉ D'AFFAIRES A.I.
OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF LIBERIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I present my compliments to you and upon instruction of my Government, have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 23 February 1999 from Charles Ghankay Taylor, President of the Republic of Liberia (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Famatta R. OSODE
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex

Letter dated 23 February 1999 from the President of Liberia addressed to the Secretary-General

I am pleased to present my compliments and, in reference to the Sierra Leonean conflict, take this opportunity to bring to your attention the efforts the Government of Liberia is making to help ensure peace and security in our sister Republic of Sierra Leone, and in our subregion as a whole.

The Government of Liberia has consistently and repeatedly called on its citizens to disengage from the Sierra Leonean conflict and to return home. In furtherance of this pronouncement, the Government of Liberia has invoked articles V, VIII and IX of the Non-Aggression and Security Cooperation Treaty between countries of the Mano River Union, particularly article VIII, which provides that any member of the military or paramilitary forces found within the territory of a High Contracting Party without proper leave of absence, prior clearance, entry permit and travel documents shall be (arrested and) kept in custody. Further, the Government concerned shall immediately be notified. Article IX calls for the establishment of a Joint Security Liaison Committee consisting of three (3) representatives from each High Contracting Party, who shall have the responsibility to liaise on the subject of fugitive criminals and dissidents, as well as on the subversive activities of citizens of their respective countries in the territory of each member State, to exchange information and to investigate reports affecting the security of the High Contracting Parties with a view to maintaining the desired peaceful coexistence. In addition, my Government has called for the immediate appointment of these members of the Joint Security Liaison Committee provided for in that instrument. Furthermore, we have proposed the convening of a ministerial meeting of the Mano River Union on 3 March 1999, in Monrovia, to develop a mechanism for the implementation of the Non-Aggression and Security Cooperation Treaty and to prepare for a summit meeting of the Heads of State.

In view of the above, we renew our many requests to the United Nations to consider the deployment of observers/monitors at the border between Liberia and Sierra Leone. This development will enhance the measures we anticipate taking along with the other members of the Mano River Union. I am hereby requesting your personal support and that of the Security Council on this initiative.

(Signed) Charles Ghankay TAYLOR